Model villages in Himachal Pradesh

1683. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Himachal Pradesh developed as model villages under the Centrally-sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme;

(b) the amount earmarked for the purpose during 1998-99;

(c) whether the Himachal Pradesh Government have sent a scientific project to Central Government for approval and release of funds under the programme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (d) Under the Centrally Sponsored Rural Sanitation Programme (CRSP), one village is being developed as model village in Himachal Pradesh.

There is no separate earmarking of funds for this component under the CRSP; and the State Government has to prepare projects for approval and subsequent release of funds, based on the progress of work under the projects.

The Government of Himachal Pradesh has not sent any specific proposal for consideration.

Houses to the disabled under IAY

1684. SHRI YERRA NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a certain percentage of IAY houses are to be allotted to disabled people;

(b) if so, the stipulate percentage;

(c) whether this aspect of the IAY programme is being monitored;

(d) if so, the findings on the implementation of the scheme for disabled people;

(e) whether any request has been made to enhance IAY housing for Andhra Pradesh; and

(f) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Consequent to the coming into effect of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1997, it has been decided by the Government of India to earmark 3% of the funds for the benefit of persons with disabilities under IAY.

(c) and (d) IAY guideline stipulate that monitoring of disabled persons should form part and parcel of Monthly Progress Report which are furnished by State Governments. However since this provision has been recently introduced, most of the State Governments have not furnished details of houses allotted to disabled persons.

(e) and (f) Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for 50,000 additional houses under IAY during 1998-99 due to floods. No additional funds have been allocated to Andhra Pradesh in response to this request.

Replacement of the rural drinking water schemes

1685. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the system used by the Drinking Water Mission to estimate replacement cost of rural drinking water schemes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Drinking Water Mission will have to replace schemes which have already had a life of 15 years;

(c) how many such schemes will have to be replaced in 1998-99;

(d) whether adequate funds are available to constantly replace old systems;

(e) whether any study has been done of the earliest installed rural drinking water systems and their technical life; and

(f) what steps are proposed to ensure efficient and regular replacement of old rural drinking water system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) to (f) Rural Water Supply is a state

subject State Governments have been implementing Rural Water Supply Programmes under the State Sector Minimum Needs Programme (MNP). The Central Government, through the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission only supplement the efforts of the State Government by providing central assistance under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). The State Governments have been delegated powers to plan and implement individual Water Supply Schemes under the ARWSP on the pattern of the MNP. As such, information regarding design life of the system, replacement cost, number of schemes to be replaced etc. is not maintained at the central level. Essentially this is a function of the State Governments.

State legislations nullifying 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments

1686. SHRI S.B. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments were passed by Parliament;

(b) whether Government are aware that some States have passed legislation to nullify the objects of empowerment of Panchayati Raj Institutions by reducing the tenure of the office bearers from five years to one year; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government to set right these retrograde measures and how soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government is committed to ensuring implementation of the Constitutional provisions in letter and spirit. The Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka have made provisions in their respective Panchayati Raj Acts for tenure of office bearers of PRIs that are not in consonance with that envisaged in the Constitution Seventy-third Amendment Act, 1992. It is proposed to take up the matter with the Governments of Maharashtra and Karnataka for its rectification.

Long term Action Plan for KBK

1687. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the report from Orissa Government regarding effective monitoring and co-ordinating arrangement both at the field level and at the State level, associating the representative of the people on long term Action Plan for KBK in Orissa; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI BABAGOUDA PATIL): (a) and (b) The State Government of Orissa have reported that a Senior Officer in the rank of Commissioner has been appointed as Administrator (Special Projects) and it has been decided that his Headquarter shall be at Koraput. This Officer is reviewing the implementation of the Revised Action Plan and coordinating the activities in the field of different Departments of State Government concerned with the implementation of the Revised Action Plan. It has also been decided to constitute a project level Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary to review implementation of the Revised Action Plan. Senior Officers of State Government concerned with implementation of the Revised Action Plan and the Administrator (Special Projects) are Members of the Committee. The State Government have also decided to constitute a State Leval Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister. Representatives of Government of India, Members of Parliament and Members of State Legislative Assembly are Members of this Advisory Committee.

Evaluation of JRY

1688. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since completed the evaluation work of JRY in the country;

(b) if so, the details of achievements made in it, State-wise;